1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21.	Sikkim	447 @	405	0	90.6	Provisional (to be confirmed) 42 Nos. Forest Villages not electrified.
22.	Tamil Nadu	15822 @	15822	0	100.0	
23.	Tripura	855 (#)	788	67	92.2	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	112803	87079	25724	77.2	Progress reported to the end of 3/97
25.	West Bengal	37910	29288	8622	77.3	Achievement as per 1981 census Progress reported to the end of 7/97
	Total	586165	497686	87817	84.9	
	UTs	1093	1090	0	99.7	Fully electrified. Balance not feasible.
	G. Total	587258	498776	87817	84.9	

(@) Fully electrified, rest not feasible.
Source : CEA's report for August, 97

Incomplete Projects

207. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR
SHRI T. GOVINDAN

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Central Projects relating to Eighth Five Year Plan are yet to be completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to complete the incomplete projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) As on 31.3.1997, 233 central sector projects of the Eighth Five Year Plan were yet to be completed.

(b) and (c) The details of such projects are given in the Project Implementation Status Report on central sector projects for the quarter ending March, 1997. The copy of the Report is available in the Parliament library. The project face various types of problems resulting in time and cost overruns. The list of various factors resulting in time and cost overrun is given in the attached *Statement I*. The measures being taken by the Government vary from project to project and time to time. However, the nature of measures taken by the Government in general to avoid shortcomings in the implementation is given in the attached *Statement II*.

STATEMENT I

Steps Taken by the Government to streamline from preparing the Original Estimates and Implementation of Projects for Reducing Overruns

(i) To-stage project approval for facilitating adequate preparation, environmental and other clearances and infrastructure planning at stage I before a project is finally approved for implementation at stage II.

(ii) Proper monitoring of projects at regular intervals, at various levels to identify constraints and take remedial measures.

(iii) Indepth review of the progress by the project authorities and Administrative Ministries.

(iv) Setting up of Task Force/Empowered Committees for speed finalsation of contract packages, solving and land acquisition and other problems.

(v) Close follow up by the concerned administrative Ministries and project authorities with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.

(vi) Inter-ministerial coordination.

STATEMENT II

The various causes for delay in the completion of projects, identified by the DPI, as a result of monitoring and analysis of the reports received from project authorities, can be summed up as follows:

I. Delay in land acquisition.

II. Delay in obtaining forest/environment clearance and lack of supporting infrastructure facilities.

III. Delay in tie up of adequate funds and sources of funds (Budgetary internal resources, extra budgetary and external aid).

IV. Delay in finalisation of detailed engineering, release of drawings and delay in availability of fronts.

V. Changes in scope.

VI. Delay in tendering, ordering and equipment supply.

VII. Industrial relations and law and order problems.

VIII. Delay and uncertainty in feed stock supply.

IX. Pre-commissioning teething troubles.

X. Technology problems.

XI. Geological surprises.

The following are major causes of Cost escalation:

I. Changes in rates of foreign exchange and statutory duties.

II. Higher cost of environmental safeguards and rehabilitation measures.

III. Higher cost of land acquisition.

IV. Change in the scope of project.

V. Higher prices being quoted by the bidders in certain areas.

VI. Under estimation of original cost and

VII. General price rise.

Single Child Family

208. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote the concept of a single child family to be launched on the 50th year of independence; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The Department of Family Welfare is promoting the concept of a single child family, purely on voluntary basis.

Indo-Pak Foreign Secretary Level Talks

209. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI G.L. KANAUJIA :
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign-Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan were held in September and October, 1997 in New Delhi and Edinburgh respectively;

(b) if so, the details of the issues raised and resolved at each of these talks;

(c) whether the issues of unprovoked firing by Pakistan Security Forces on innocent civilians in Jammu and Kashmir dominated the talks;

(d) if so, the steps taken by both the Indian Government to raise this issue at International Fora and demand compensation from Pakistan;

(e) the steps taken by both the Government to resolve all outstanding issues including the Kashmir issue; and

(f) the venue and date of next round of Foreign Secretary level talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (f) The third round of the resumed Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan was held in New Delhi from 15-18 September, 1997. This round was adjourned, with the two sides deciding to reconvene at mutually convenient dates. The Foreign Secretaries of the two countries also met, pursuant to the directions of the two Prime Ministers in Edinburgh on 25 October, 1997 during the Commonwealth Head of Governments Meeting.

After their meeting in Islamabad in June 1997, the Foreign Secretaries had identified eight subjects, viz